

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action is proposed to be taken to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Bilateral trade relationship with China**

312. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to discuss bilateral trade enhancement between India and China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the potential gains or loss to Indian industry in developing the bilateral trade relationship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Discussions on increasing the bilateral trade between India and China is a continuous process. A Joint Group on Economic Cooperation, Trade, Science and Technology (JEG) at Ministerial Level exists between the two countries since 1988. The eighth session of India-China JEG was held on 19th Jan, 2010 in Beijing, where enhancement of bilateral trade between the two countries and other economic issues were discussed. An institutional mechanism at Joint Secretary/Director General Level also exists since 2003 for reviewing trade and economic issues between the two countries on a regular basis and to facilitate decision making at JEG level. Apart from these two institutional mechanisms there are regular visits of Chinese business delegations to India and Indian business delegations to China for enhancing bilateral trade between the two countries.

(c) The bilateral trade between India and China is beneficial to both the countries and any strengthening of bilateral trade relationship will further benefit both sides including Indian industry.

#### **India-ASEAN Economic Partnership Agreement**

313. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive India- ASEAN Economic Partnership Agreement will be signed by the end of this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the potential gains to Indian industry regarding the same; and

(d) the impact of the same on the services sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) India has signed Agreement on Trade on Goods with ASEAN on 13th August, 2009 and negotiations on Agreement on Trade in Services and Agreement on Investment are ongoing between India and ASEAN.

(c) The potential gain for Indian Industry from the Agreement would be growth in bilateral trade and investment resulting in economic welfare gains to India. Indian exporters would also gain additional market access into the ASEAN countries. Indian manufacturers would be able to source raw materials and intermediate products at competitive prices from the ASEAN markets.

(d) Negotiations on Agreement on Trade in Services with ASEAN countries are underway and the Agreement would promote greater trade and investment flows between India and ASEAN and would contribute to economic development of the region.

#### **Indo-EU FTA**

314. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is close to signing the Indo-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA);

(b) whether Government has assessed the potential gains and losses;

(c) whether Government has agreed to make allowance for automobile imports from the EU; and

(d) if so, has the impact on domestic automobile industry been analysed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The Government of India is negotiating a bilateral Broad based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) with the European Union (EU). Negotiations are at an advanced stage.